

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-05 H-02 L-03 STR-04

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FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7387

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TANANARIVE 1136

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, MA

SUBJECT: HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SUGAR HEARINGS AND REQUIRED
INFORMATION-MALAGASY REPUBLIC

REF: STATE 141876

1. FOLLOWING IS BEST INFORMATION EMBASSY CAN SUPPLY ON SUGAR
SITUATION IN MADAGASCAR, KEYED TO QUESTIONS IN REFTEL:

2. (A) ACCORDING TO A CONFIDENTIAL ESTIMATE OF AN OFFICIAL
OF THE MALAGASY NATIONAL SUGAR STABILIZATION BOARD, THE
CURRENT COST OF PRODUCTION FOR RAW SUGAR EX MILL IS APPROXIMATELY
10.41 TO 12.16 CENTS PER POUND. THIS IS UNCONFIRMED ESTIMATE,
AND SHOULD BE TREATED AS SUCH.

(B) GOVERNMENT-FIXED RETAIL PRICE FOR REFINED SUGAR IS
15.85 CENTS PER POUND SOLD IN BULK, 16.76 CENTS PER POUND SOLD
IN SACKS.

(C) AVERAGE UNIT VALUE FOR SUGAR EXPORTS IN 1974: 30.52
CENTS PER POUND.

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(D) 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979

049\$7:589,	110,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	125,000
CONSUMPTION	90,000	99,000	109,000	120,000	132,000
EXPORTS	20,000	26,000	16,000	5,000	-

DATA FOR 1976-1979 ARE ALL ESTIMATES, BASED ON ASSUMPTION THAT PRODUCTION OF THE FOUR EXISTING SUGAR MILLS IN MADAGASCAR CAN BE INCREASED FROM CURRENT PRODUCTION OF 110,000 TONS ANNUALLY TO MAXIMUM CAPACITY OF 125,000 TONS DURING 1976.

(E) CREATION OF A NEW SUGAR COMPLEX WITH CAPACITY OF APPROXIMATELY 30,000 MT PER YEAR IN MORONDAVA AREA OF WESTERN MADAGASCAR IS NOW UNDER STUDY BY A GERMAN FIRM, AGRAR, CONTRACTED BY MALAGASY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY SODEMO. FEASIBILITY AND TIME-FRAME OF PROJECTED COMPLEX AS YET UNCLEAR; APPEARS UNLIKELY TO BE REALIZED IN NEAR FUTURE.

(F) ESTIMATED GROWTH RATE OF DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION 8-10 PERCENT ANNUALLY.

(G) UNDER NEW CONVENTION OF LOME MADAGASCAR HAS AGREED TO SUPPLY EEC WITH 10,000 MT ANNUALLY, AT PRICE PRE-DETERMINED BETWEEN EC AND ACP COUNTRIES.

(H) MALAGASY GOVERNMENT SUGAR STABILIZATION BOARD (CAISSE DE STABILISATION ET COMMERCIALISATION DE LA CANNE A SUCRE ET DU SUCRE) DIRECTLY REGULATES DOMESTIC MARKETING, PRICING, AND EXPORT OF SUGAR. BOARD ANNUALLY SETS NATIONWIDE UNIFORM PRICES FOR SUGAR CANE AND SUGAR AT ALL STAGES OF PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION; DETERMINES HOW MUCH MAY BE EXPORTED; AND ITSELF MONOPOLIZES ALL SUGAR EXPORTS.

3. NOTE: 8,400 M/TONS OF SUGAR ARE NOW BEING EMBARKED IN MADAGASCAR FOR EXPORT TO THE U.S. THIS WILL PROBABLY COMPRISE TOTAL OF MALAGASY SUGAR EXPORTS TO THE U.S. THIS YEAR.
ELFERS

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